

Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Suicide is one of the most disruptive and tragic events a family and a community can experience, and is occurring at a national rate of over 30,000 suicides annually. Suicide is the 'fastest growing killer of youth today;' and
- WHEREAS,** Suicide kills youth 3 to 6 times more than homicide. Research shows that almost all youth suicides are preventable; and
- WHEREAS,** The issue of suicide and how to prevent it is of extreme importance and must be recognized as an immediate need for awareness and prevention; and
- WHEREAS,** Heightened community awareness will encourage development of strategies to address depression and mental health issues and to prevent suicides; and
- WHEREAS,** The Yellow Ribbon is rapidly becoming recognized internationally as the symbol for the awareness and prevention of suicide. It is recognized and used by suicide prevention groups, crisis centers, schools, churches, youth centers/hospitals, counselors, teachers, parents and especially youth themselves.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim September 17-23, 2006, as

“YELLOW RIBBON SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK”

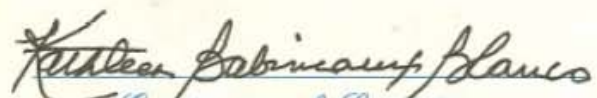
and do urge all citizens to work to prevent suicide, reduce stigma, wear a yellow ribbon and to raise awareness and tolerance around all people affected by this tragedy.



Attest By
The Governor


Secretary of State

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this
the 29th day of August
A.D., 2006*


Governor of Louisiana